

A TOUCH of magic by veteran striker Tony Horseman in the 102nd minute of Saturday's Berks and Bucks Senior Cup semi-final at Chesham, was enough to put Wycombe Wanderers through to their second successive County Cup final there they will meet either Slough or Abingdon.

"Bodger" Horseman, listed as substitute for this game despite his 29 goals this season, laid on the vital second goal in extra time for Mick Holifield and it was only when he replaced Tony Price that Wycombe looked effective as a unit.

For most of the match the Blues struggled to overcome appalling conditions more suited to water polo. They were never in much trouble throughout the first 45 minutes although play was always scrappy, but in the second half Chesham raised their game out of all proportion and with a bit more luck could well have clinched themselves a place in the final.

In the end though, superior fitness proved the deciding factor and as Chesham tired badly, Wanderers added two more goals to make sure.

There were several changes in the Wycombe side. The injured John Maskell and Terry Reardon were replaced by Kevin Raine and Phil Wood, while Derek Gamblin returned to right back for his first full competitive game for four months.

The other switch was Price for Horseman. The boggy morass was totally unsuited to Price's quicksilver style and he had little opportunity to show his talents. His performance was interesting for it justified manager Brian Lee's decision to leave him out against Blyth Spartans last week.

Of the other changes, Wood's seemed the most successful. Phil used to play in a midfield role in the past and he looked more at home in that position than he has all season. It seems a shame Wycombe have such a wealth of top-class players in midfield, for Wood would otherwise be a natural choice.

Derek Gamblin had a quiet but steady return while Kevin Raine dealt competently with whatever came his way. His seige-gun kicks were an added bonus.

Chesham's Meadow pitch looked in fair condition at first considering the rain, but once the players had been on for a while, it turned into a mud bath. Just to add a bit of variety near the end, both goalkeepers had to contend with some blinding

sunshine during extra time — English weather!

Early on Chesham looked ragged and gave away over 50 per cent of their possession with badly directed passing. Wycombe, however, found it difficult to take advantage and they also tended to overhit the ball.

Dylan Evans had a couple of half chances which went well wide and Alf Cameron failed to

could have been well satisfied with their first-half work. A goal up and seldom troubled, they seemed to be cruising to the final. Chesham had other ideas. There must have been some spirited words in the changing rooms by Manager McNally, for after the break they came out looking a completely different side.

Leading goalscorer Stewart Atkins had the ball in the net

Chesham Utd. 1, Wycombe W. 3 (a.e.t.) Report by STUART EARP

connect after Raine tried to punch clear Le Sage's free-kick. But just as basic errors were beginning to creep into the game, Wycombe went one up.

Ken Gregory brought down Dylan Evans near the bye-line, just outside the box. Mick Holifield clipped in a dipping free-kick and the ball struck Dave Le Sage before cannoning into the net. The Chesham centre-back knew very little about it.

Chesham continued to struggle after Wycombe's breakthrough. Goalkeeper Laurie Cole came to their rescue, tipping Roger Grant's corner just over the bar in the 24th minute. By using the long ball to their big strikers Perrin and Evans, Wycombe's two front runners gave the veteran Les Burgess a real handful.

Then, on the stroke of half-time, Tony Price burst onto the scene and all but put the visitors into a two-goal lead. As the ball came across, Chesham were caught wrong footed, leaving Price with a clear chance at goal. But in trying to turn, he gave the home defence a split second to recover and his eventual shot was bundled clear.

So after 45 minutes, Wycombe

after only four minutes of the half but was ruled off-side, and then in the 51st minute Roger Grimmond pulled back an excellent equaliser. The trouble started when Pritchard and Price both went for the same ball — and lost it. Ken Beaven picked up possession and slipped it through to Atkins, who in turn sent Grimmond racing past a square defence. The lanky centre-forward ploughed on and slotted a fine goal past Raine from just inside the box.

Wycombe retaliated immediately with Price running through at a narrow angle and beating Cole's attempt to cut the ball out. Gordon Taylor came to the rescue, however, thumping the ball clear. Then Evans beat Taylor in the box but thrashed a shot well wide.

Chesham were unperturbed. Atkins gave us a glimpse of his real speed when he left Wood chasing his heels in the 60th minute, but no one was there to convert the chance. United's pressure continued. Grimmond went close with a flashing drive just over the bar and then Beaven raced through and crossed into an empty goalmouth again.

Once more Wycombe were

paying the penalty for allowing their opponents too much room and time in the middle. As a result, Chesham's passing improved no end and they began to look more likely winners than their esteemed opponents.

It was not until Horseman replaced Price in the 82nd minute that Wycombe came to life. Pritchard began the recovery by crossing hard and low for Perrin to force a great save from Cole. Chesham held firm, however, and after 90 minutes the score was still 1-1.

United could hardly have relished the prospect of extra time on such a pitch. They had already given all they could in the second half and looked exhausted. A good example of this came after only a couple of minutes when Evans tricked Gregory and carved himself a great chance. But as so often happens, all his hard work was ruined by a poor finishing shot. This one was well wide.

Bernie Mapp replaced Grimmond after 96 minutes but the new man brought little respite for United. Young Phil Sewell pulled off a superbly timed tackle to dispossess Horseman, but in the 12th minute of extra time the same man set up Wycombe's killer goal.

Pritchard slipped the ball to Horseman, who with a characteristic flick, bemused the Chesham defence and paved the way for Mick Holifield. Running on, Holifield coolly slotted the ball over Cole's despairing dive. Seconds later Johnston almost put the ball into his own net after Horseman headed on Grant's cross.

Cole raced out well to block another Holifield effort in the 108th minute but Tom Johnston was only inches away from a spectacular equaliser seconds later. Mapp crossed from the right and Johnston just couldn't quite grow enough to supply the necessary nod.

Sixty seconds later it was all over. Perrin outpaced the home defence to a through ball and as Cole advanced, shot straight and true for the net. Although the ball came to a halt on the goal-line, Evans raced in to tap it home.

The rest was a formality. Pritchard and Wood held the side together with sterling work in midfield and never allowed Chesham the chance to reply.

CHESHAM: L. Cole; P. Sewell, D. Le Sage, L. Burgess, K. Gregory; G. Taylor, K. Gregory, T. Johnston; S. Atkins, R. Grimmond (Sub.: B. Mapp, 96 mins.), A. Cameron.

WYCOMBE: K. Raine; D. Gamblin, D. Bullock, K. Mead, R. Grant; L. Pritchard, P. Wood, M. Holifield; A. Price (Sub.: A. Horseman, 82 mins.), D. Evans, S. Perrin.

Referee: D. J. Potter (Twyford).

Half-time: 0-1. **Goalscorers:** Wycombe — Le Sage O.G. (21), Holifield (102), Evans (109). Chesham — Grimmond (51).

Approximate attendance: 1,750.

BLUES THIRD

ROTHMANS ISTHMIAN LEAGUE

	DIVISION ONE										Pen pts
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	C	D		
Dulwich	32	17	11	4	53	25	62	11	0		
Bishop's	29	16	8	5	57	19	56	2	0		
Wycombe	24	17	4	3	62	21	55	0	0		
Hendon	23	16	5	2	41	10	53	1	0		
L'stone	27	15	6	6	43	22	51	1	0		
L'head	26	15	3	8	54	27	48	2	0		
Hayes	27	14	6	7	53	30	48	4	4		
Oxford	31	12	12	7	34	35	48	3	0		
Tooting	34	12	7	15	44	48	43	4	0		
Ilford	29	11	8	10	38	34	41	6	0		
Barking	32	11	6	15	42	51	39	8	0		
K'gston	29	9	11	9	36	32	38	3	0		
Sutton	28	9	11	8	36	36	38	0	0		
Hitchin	24	10	6	8	43	37	36	0	0		
Enfield	27	10	6	11	34	31	36	5	0		
W'ishow	30	8	9	13	32	46	33	9	4		
Walton	20	9	5	6	32	24	32	6	4		
Woking	17	9	1	7	29	28	28	4	0		
Bromley	32	7	7	18	33	50	28	5	4		
Clapton	31	4	2	25	17	104	14	8	4		
St Alb's	30	2	4	24	22	72	10	6	0		
Casuals	28	2	2	24	19	71	8	2	0		

DIVISION TWO

	DIVISION TWO										Pen pts
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	C	D		
Tilbury	22	12	5	5	36	20	41	6	0		
Dag'ham	16	12	3	1	37	9	39	0	0		
Slough	21	11	5	5	33	19	38	3	0		
Harwich	21	8	7	6	35	28	31	1	0		
H'tford	16	9	2	5	25	16	29	6	0		
M'head	19	6	10	3	24	16	28	1	0		
Aveley	17	8	4	5	26	20	28	5	4		
Horsham	14	5	7	2	23	16	22	2	0		
Staines	19	5	7	7	24	28	22	3	4		
Chesham	13	5	5	3	26	21	20	5	0		
Harlow	22	4	8	10	19	28	20	6	0		
C'sh'tn	18	5	5	8	15	28	20	6	0		
F'chley	20	5	3	12	19	38	18	5	0		
Hampton	14	3	6	5	23	22	15	1	0		
Wok'ham	21	3	5	13	20	53	14	8	0		
S'thall	17	1	4	12	6	29	7	6	0		

● Penalty points: C=Caution D, Dismissal. Eight point limit, club with over eight points lose share in sportsmanship pool.